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July 3, 2002

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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GROUP 3600

SUBJECT: Applicant: Peter A. Warren
 Serial No: 10/044,434
 Filed: January 11, 2002
 For: FOLDABLE MEMBER
 Docket No: FM-212J

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment C for the subject application.

If for any reason this Preliminary Amendment is found to be INCOMPLETE, or if at any time it appears that a TELEPHONE CONFERENCE with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts (781) 890-5678.

If any payment during prosecution is found to be incorrect, please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to my Deposit Account No. 09-0002. A copy of this letter is enclosed for use by the Finance Branch in the event that it is necessary to make any charge or credit to my deposit account.

In addition, pursuant to Rule 1.136(a)(3), the Office is hereby authorized to treat any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Also, any request or Petition for an Extension of Time notwithstanding an inadvertent reference in the Petition to a shorter period of time is to be treated as requesting the appropriate length of time.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
July 3, 2002
Page 2

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Kindly acknowledge receipt of the foregoing by returning the enclosed self-addressed postcard.

Sincerely,



Kirk Teska
Reg. No. 36,291

JDS:lr
Enclosures



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Paper No.:
Group:
Examiner:
Docket No.: FM-212J

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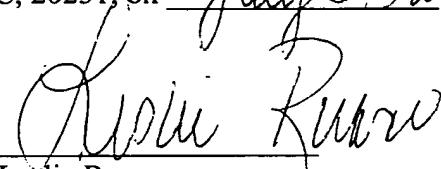
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC, 20231, on JULY 3 2002

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Leslie Ruano

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT C

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified patent application, applicant submit herewith an amendment to the claims. No new matter has been added.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 65 - 69, as follows.

65. (Once Amended) A foldable member comprising:

at least a first tube made of layers of material;

at least one predetermined hinge area along the length of the first tube; and

a plurality of opposing elongated slots in the tube through the layers of material and separated longitudinal strips between the slots which fold when subjected to localized buckling forces.

66. (Once Amended) A foldable member comprising:

at least a first tube made of layers of material;

at least one predetermined hinge area along the length of the first tube; and

opposing sets of elongated slots in the tube at the hinge area thereof and separated longitudinal strips between the slots which fold when subjected to localized buckling forces,

each slot of each set of elongated slots separated longitudinally along the length of the tube from each adjacent slot by a bridge element.

67. (Once Amended) A collapsible structure comprising:

a plurality of joined members;

a selected number of said members each including:

a tube made of layers of material;

at least one predetermined hinge area along the length of the tube; and

a plurality of opposing elongated slots in the tube at the hinge area thereof and separated longitudinal strips between the slots which fold when subjected to localized buckling forces.

68. (Once Amended) A foldable member comprising:
at least a first tube made of layers of material;
at least one predetermined hinge area along the length of the first tube; and
a plurality of opposing sets of elongated slots in the tube through the layers of material and separated longitudinal strips between the slots which fold when subjected to localized buckling forces.
69. (Once Amended) A foldable member comprising:
at least a first tube made of layers of material;
at least one predetermined hinge area along the length of the first tube; and
opposing elongated slots in the tube at the hinge area thereof and separated longitudinal strips between the slots which fold when subjected to localized buckling forces.

A marked up copy of the above claims showing the amendments is attached hereto.